

Discussion: Frames Program Overview

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Why?

- Pressure to expand use of admin. records for the production of official statistics.
- Nowadays, admin. records are used in virtually every Census Bureau program.
- No systematic effort to ensure administrative records are used, interpreted, and processed in a consistent way throughout the different programs.
- Frames Project envisions creating a formal Census Bureau program whose sole purpose is to create common, consistent & linked frames for use by all programs.
- Benefits are huge:
 - Greater consistency and coherence in different data products.
 - Opens the door to a more intensive and agile use of administrative records to more quickly respond to the public's emerging data needs.

Frames Program

Bureau's Questions

1. We currently are considering using Person Identification Keys (PIKs), Employer Identification Numbers (EINs), and Master Address File Identifiers (MAFIDs) as the primary linking keys between frames. Are there other data elements that we should consider using as linking keys? Are there other methods for linking across the frames we should consider?

Frames Program

Bureau's Questions

2. What thoughts and advice do Committee members have regarding methods for measuring the quality and completeness of each frame? What measures can we put in place to determine whether a frame is comprehensive and as-complete-as possible?

Frames Program

Bureau's Questions

3. How do we build efficient geospatial relationships into the linking process; that is, efficient methods for locating all records within a specified higher-level geographic area or areas, more effectively linking records in the MAF to geographic areas in the TIGER database?

Frames Program

Additional questions

1. How do you plan to ensure that forcing consistency among frames does not exclude populations that are not well represented in administrative records?
2. The Local Employment Household Dynamics (LEHD) program already links and matches different frames of businesses and people. Will the Frames Program take advantage of the lessons learned in the LEHD Program (e.g., leveraging existing LEHD ingestion, deduplication or matching methodologies)?
3. Will the Frames Program publish detailed documentation on how it ingests and processes the data it receives?

Thank you!